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R 19516159

EXAMINER

HARRELL, R

EOM1/0205

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

FOLEY & LARDNER
3000 K ST., N.W., STE. 500
WASHINGTON, DC 20007-5109

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2315

DATE MAILED:

02/05/96

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

This application has been examined Responsive to communication filed on 11-6-95 This action is made final.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire -3- month(s), -0- days from the date of this letter.
Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

1. Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892.
2. Notice of Draftsman's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
3. Notice of Art Cited by Applicant, PTO-1449.
4. Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152.
5. Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes, PTO-1474.
6.

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

1. Claims 1-23 are pending in the application.

Of the above, claims _____ are withdrawn from consideration.

2. Claims _____ have been canceled.

3. Claims _____ are allowed.

4. Claims 1-23 are rejected.

5. Claims _____ are objected to.

6. Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

7. This application has been filed with informal drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.85 which are acceptable for examination purposes.

8. Formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.

9. The corrected or substitute drawings have been received on _____. Under 37 C.F.R. 1.84 these drawings are acceptable; not acceptable (see explanation or Notice of Draftsman's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948).

10. The proposed additional or substitute sheet(s) of drawings, filed on _____, has (have) been approved by the examiner; disapproved by the examiner (see explanation).

11. The proposed drawing correction, filed _____, has been approved; disapproved (see explanation).

12. Acknowledgement is made of the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has been received not been received been filed in parent application, serial no. _____; filed on _____.

13. Since this application appears to be in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

14. Other See attached.

EXAMINER'S ACTION

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15. Claims 1-23 remain for examination.

16. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

17. Claims 1-8,13,14, and 16-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Burkhardt, Jr. et al. (5,142,683).

18. Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over by Burkhardt, Jr. et al. (5,142,683).

19. The applicant's arguments filed 11/6/95 (paper #8) with respect to claims as rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. 103 have been fully considered, but they are deemed to be not persuasive.

20. The grounds for rejecting the claims as presented in paper #6 (mailed 7/5/95 (examiner's first action)) continue and are hereby incorporated in this rejection by reference.

21. The applicant argued in substance that Burkhardt does not provide a system in which each of the mailbox memories is write accessible by its owner processor device at any time. However, any of the processors in the applied reference can write to its mailbox at any time the processor needs to send a message to another processor (eg., see Abstract, col. 2 (line 43-et. seq.)). If the applicant is suggesting that multiple processors can write to their corresponding mailbox at times that are identical (eg., several processors are writing at the same time), the claims are

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silent with respect to this issue. Simultaneous writes are not claimed. However, permitting multiple processors to access a common memory at the same time was clearly obvious to those skilled in the data processing art (eg., memory banks, multiported memory, etc...).

22. Also the applicant argued in substance that the present invention provides a system in which the server need not scan the mailboxes to determine the source or the request; nor must the server clear the mailbox quickly in order to allow the requesting device further access to its mailbox. However, as the claim stands a processor places a message in its mail box, signals a receiving processor which receiving processor then determines which of the processors signalled the receiving processor and then reads the message. Clearly such is performed in the applied reference in that a processor places a message in its mail box, interrupts (signals) the receiving processor who then checks to see what message is for it and reads the message.

23. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. The applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a). The practice of automatically extending the shortened statutory period an additional month upon the filing of a timely first response to a final rejection has been discontinued by the Office. See 1021 TMOG 35.

24. A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY

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EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

25. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert B. Harrell whose telephone number is (703) 305-9692 any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.



ROBERT B. HARRELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2315